

2019 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology

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1. Department or Agency

Environmental Protection Agency

2. Fiscal Year

2019

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology

3b. GSA Committee No.

730

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

06/06/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

06/06/2020

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Request for Approval

13. Effective Date

06/08/1988

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

17b. Closed

17c. Partially Closed

Other Activities

17d. Total

Current FY Next FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants

\$0.00 \$0.00

18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

NACEPT held two public committee teleconference meetings in FY 2018. The purpose of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) is to provide for public discussion and the development of independent advice and counsel to the EPA Administrator on a broad range of environmental policy, technology and management issues. NACEPT is a vehicle for EPA to convene the nation's environmental leaders representing business, academia, non governmental organizations, state, local and tribal governments, who collectively provide input as environmental policy is proposed, formulated and/or implemented that advance EPA's overarching mission and objectives. NACEPT's work continues to support the EPA Administrator's current vision of promoting a healthier environment and building a stronger economy for future generations through three guiding core principles: rules of law, cooperative federalism and promoting public participation.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Selection criteria for NACEPT membership emphasizes balanced sector representation across EPA's entire spectrum of stakeholders and constituencies. NACEPT members reflect the complexity and diverse perspectives of the environmental issues the Agency addresses regionally, nationally and globally. Membership includes EPA's major regulated industries, public advocacy groups, and academicians, state and local governments, tribal representatives, and grassroots organizations from various communities including environmental justice. Finally, NACEPT's membership process allows for the selection of members based on evolving environmental issues and topics that are critical to the Agency and its mission to protect human health and the environment.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The NACEPT Council held two public teleconferences during FY 2018. NACEPT generally meets two to three times annually via in-person and/or teleconference. Timely, balanced stakeholder input and independent advice are critical to the Agency's efforts to develop and implement environmental policies, regulations, and technologies that promote effective business practices and decision-making processes. NACEPT is one of the Agency's most effective stakeholder means of providing balanced views and perspectives prior to the formulation or implementation of environmental policies and programs.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The scope of NACEPT's charter provides EPA with a tool that is invaluable in meeting the Agency's mission. Through NACEPT, EPA's Administrator is able to access a wealth of knowledge and experience that would otherwise be unavailable to the Agency. Since environmental issues and problems continually evolve and because those same issues and problems affect communities regionally, nationally and globally, NACEPT is well positioned to provide the Administrator with a broad environmental knowledge base that would otherwise be cost-prohibitive and impossible to retain in the Agency's workforce. NACEPT's charter affords the Agency a platform that is flexible enough to advise on a wide spectrum of domestic and international environmental management policies, programs, and technologies. It is an avenue which provides the Administrator and the Agency's senior leadership with a means of accessing a wealth of knowledge and experience that is diverse, crosscutting, well respected, and nationally recognized. The diversity of knowledge and balanced perspectives represented by the membership of NACEPT, as well as the consensual nature of their advice and recommendations are a unique, timely and valuable resource that is not available through other sources. Other stakeholder mediums such as public hearings or information sharing forums do not provide balanced consensual based perspectives, nor do they offer timeliness in providing feedback that can satisfy many of the Agency's demanding time constraints.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

No meetings were closed or partially closed.

21. Remarks

Members are Tier 1 (parent committee members) or Tier 2 (subcommittee) members. In some cases, a member may be both Tier 1 and Tier 2.

Designated Federal Officer

Eugene Green DFO

Narrative Description

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) in 1988 to provide independent advice to the EPA Administrator on a broad range of domestic and international environmental policy, technology, and management issues. NACEPT provides a forum for public discussion from a broad range of EPA's constituents and stakeholders. This committee

and its subcommittees address EPA's cross-cutting goals and strategies of building collaborations. EPA depends on its collaborations with other federal agencies, states, tribes, local governments, non-governmental organizations, industry, and academia to achieve results. Council members include senior-level decision makers and knowledgeable and experienced members from academia, business/industry, non-governmental organizations, and state, local and tribal governments. NACEPT's scope involves advising the EPA Administrator on broad, crosscutting issues associated with EPA's environmental management on matters relating to activities and functions under Federal environmental statutes, executive orders, regulations, and policies. NACEPT advises on ways to improve the development and implementation of domestic and international environmental management policies, programs, and technologies. NACEPT's major objectives are to provide independent advice and recommendations on:

- a.) Identifying approaches to improve the development and implementation of domestic and international environmental management policies and programs;
- b.) Providing guidance on how EPA can most efficiently and effectively implement innovative approaches throughout the Agency and its programs;
- c.) Identifying approaches to enhance information and technology planning;
- d.) Fostering improved approaches to environmental management in the fields of economics, finance, and technology;
- e.) Increasing communication and understanding among all levels of government, business/industry, non-governmental organizations, and academia, with the goal of increasing non-federal resources and improving the effectiveness of federal and non-federal resources directed at solving environmental problems;
- f.) Implementing statutes, executive orders and regulations;
- and g.) Reviewing progress in implementing statutes, executive orders, and regulations.

Accomplishments: NACEPT held two public teleconferences during FY 2018. In the second quarter, NACEPT held a public teleconference to discuss and approve its 2018 report on citizen science, which was formerly transmitted to the agency on April 24th. The Council's April 2018 report, *Information to Action—Strengthening EPA Citizen Science Partnerships for Environmental Protection*, and the recommendations contained within were developed following extensive interviews with citizen science experts and practitioners. The ten recommendations in NACEPT's second report on citizen science outline how EPA can foster collaboration and partnerships to use citizen science information and data for action that improves human health and the environment. These high-level, overarching recommendations focus on strengthening pathways that move citizen science from information to action. The NACEPT 2016 report entitled *Environmental Protection Belongs to the Public: A Vision for Citizen Science at EPA* help to set the foundation and tone for The second report by identifying additional actions that EPA should take in developing strategic collaborations and partnerships. Over the past year, NACEPT's work continued to support the EPA Administrator's vision of promoting a healthier environment and

building a stronger economy for future generations through three guiding core principles: rules of law, cooperative federalism and promoting public participation. Response Letters/Impact of Recommendations: NACEPT's results oriented approach has enabled the Council to continue providing independent advice and recommendations on key aspects of environmental policy, management and technology related issues that further advance the agency's mission of protecting human health and the environment.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Trust in government | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Over \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cost Savings Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Cost Savings Comments

Not Applicable

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

1,500

Number of Recommendations Comments

NACEPT submitted 10 recommendations to the agency in FY 2018. The Council has produced approximately 109 reports and advice letters and an estimated 1500 recommendations over the life of the committee. The specificity of recommendations across reports is not standardized. While some reports provide broad recommendations, others provide detailed, precise recommendations. A simple count of recommendations overlooks this variation. In past years, responses from the Agency indicated that NACEPT's advice and recommendations on key environmental matters were beneficial to the Agency and would continue to support and align with EPA's current strategic goals.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

50%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

See description of committee advice above.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

50%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

See description of committee advice above.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

EPA provides feedback to NACEPT through written responses and through discussion with representatives from the Agency during committee meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities



Reallocated resources



Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Not Applicable

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

Not Applicable

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

See website.